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CHEADLE AND GATLEY

Urban District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

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To the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I BEG to present my Annual Report of the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District for the year 1896.

In the Report I shall have to re-state facts concerning the district which have been referred to in previous Annual Reports as required by a Memorandum issued yearly by the Local Government Board.

The district is mainly agricultural and residential. Last year, as compared with previous years, a large number of villa residences was built in Cheadle Hulme, and there was also a large increase in the number of cottages built and being built in Cheadle, in consequence of the additions to the Printworks, resulting in a great increase in the number of hands employed. There have been no fresh trades introduced into the district. The health of the operatives is good.

The number of deaths registered in the district from and including 1st January, 1896, to December 31st, 1896, was 170, which included 29 at the Royal Lunatic Asylum, and 7 at the Convalescent Hospital, so, excluding institutions, 134 belonged to the district proper. The number of Births registered during the same period was 199—males 94 and females 105. The population of the district excluding institutions, census 1891—7540, and the estimated population to the middle of 1896—8250, calculated by estimating the

increase of the number of births over that of the deaths, and the increase in the number of new houses—50.

Comparing 1896 with 1895, the number of deaths registered in the district proper in 1896—134; in 1895—125, increase of 9.

The number of births registered in 1896—199; in 1895—207, decrease of 8.

The death rate, excluding institutions (population 8,250) per 1,000 in 1896—16·21; in 1895—15·62.

The birth rate (population 8,250) per 1000, in 1896—24 12; in 1895—25·87.

In 1896 28·3% of the deaths were over 65 years of age; in 1895 32%.

In 1896 20·8% of the deaths were under 1 year of age; in 1895 16%.

Deaths under 1 year per 1000 births registered in 1896—140.7; in 1895—96·6.

In Tables A and B, which are appended, will be found the ages, special causrs of death, and the area of the district.

During the year, excluding institutions, there were 36 cases of infectious disease notified, as compared with 74 in 1895; 52 in 1894; and 35 in 1893. A decrease of 38 over 1895, and 16 as compared with 1894.

The number of cases notified of each disease were as follows:—

Smallpox	-	in 1896	none;	in 1895,	5, suspected.	
Scarlatina	-	,,	21	,,	45, decrease of 24.	
Diptheria	-	,,	none	,,	7,	,, 7.
Enteric	- -	,,	12	,,	13,	,, 1.
Puerperal	- -	,,	none	,,	none	,, none.
Membraneous Croup		,,	none	,,	2,	,, 2.
Erysipelas	-	,,	3	,,	2, increase of 1.	

At the Convalescent Hospital there were 2 cases notified—viz., 1 of Scarlet Fever and one of Erysipelas, as compared with one of Typhoid Fever and 5 of Erysipelas in 1895. All these cases were removed to Monsall Fever Hospital.

At the Asylum there were no cases of infectious disease notified.

At the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools there were 5 cases of infectious disease notified. These were all treated in their own Sanitorium.

Whenever a case of infectious disease was notified I visited the house at once, and, with the aid of the medical gentleman in attendance and of your Inspector, took precautions as far as possible to check its spread, and in no case did the disease spread directly to other houses. The very favourable difference in the number of cases notified during the year, as compared with 1895, may be accounted for by the fact that greater care was taken by the parents of the patients, and thus the disease was prevented spreading to other families. It has been the usual custom to have the houses fumigated with Sulphur after the termination of the cases. This has been fairly satisfactory, but I should like to suggest that the Bedding, etc., in each case should be disinfected by steam, as this is now considered to be the most satisfactory method of dealing with infected articles.

SMALLPOX.

There was no case of Smallpox in the district during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twenty-one cases were notified. The disease on the whole was of a mild type ; only one case proved fatal. They were distributed over the district as follows :—10 in Cheadle, 3 in Cheadle Hulme, 4 in Adswood, and 4 in Cheadle Heath. Of the 10 cases in Cheadle, one of the Patients came into the district as a visitor, and the day after his arrival shewed symptoms of the disease, and in three others the Patients took the infection outside the district ; in the other cases, which were sporadic cases, I was unable to trace the origin of the disease. In every case which occurred in Cheadle Heath and Adswood the disease was contracted outside the district. The Cheadle Hulme cases were sporadic cases, and I could not ascertain the cause of infection. The cases at the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools were due to infection taken at Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Twelve cases were notified during the year, as com-

pared with 13 in the previous year. Of the 12 cases, 5 occurred in one family and 3 in another. The remainder were isolated cases. In the family where 5 cases occurred there had been a previous case, which was thought to have been caused by some of the food supply coming from a house infected with Typhoid Fever. Samples of water from the two wells which supplied the house were analyzed, and the report of the Analyst was that one was good and the other only a second-class water, and required filtering before being used. Your Council ordered this well to be closed. In the family where 3 cases occurred the Patients contracted the disease while on a visit to Dublin. In the remainidg 4 cases, the infection in three of them was taken outside the district, and in the fourth case the Patient worked in Stockport, and lived in a row of houses the drains of which emptied themselves a little distance from the houses into an open channel. With the above exceptions, the milk supply, water supply, and drainage were in all cases good.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANEOUS CROUP.

No cases notified. Since the Notification Act came into force, this is the first year that there has been no case of these diseases. Though no diphtheria has been notified, tonsillitis of various forms was very prevalent during the Autumn.

ERYSIPELAS.

Three cases. Two were surgical cases following on poisoned wounds and one facial. They were of a very mild type, and require no special comment.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

No cases. For the past two years there has not been a case notified.

MEASLES, MUMPS, AND CHICKEN-POX

Were prevalent during the first half-year in the district, especially in Cheadle Heath and Gatley, when it was found necessary to close the schools for a short time.

WHOOPING COUGH

Was also prevalent at the beginning of the year. Three deaths were registered from it.

INFLUENZA.

Only a few cases occurred, and those were of a mild type. There were no fatal cases.

Subjoined is your Inspector's Report. As in previous years, much good work has been done in this Department :—

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF THE SANITARY WORK COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1896.

No. of Complaints received during the year, exclusive of Complaints *re* House Refuse Removal	12
,, Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected	1150
,, Cases of Overcrowding Abated	—
Results of Inspection—Orders Issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises	49
,, ,, Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed &c.	2
,, ,, Houses Disinfected after illness of an Infectious Character	13
House Drains—Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, &c., and connected with Sewers	65
Ventilated	78
Privies and Waterclosets—Repaired, &c.	25
,, ,, ,, Supplied with Water	—
,, ,, ,, New provided	18
Dust Bins—New provided	20
,, ,, Repaired, Covered, &c.	9
Water Supply—Town's Water Supplied	1
,, ,, Cisterns Cleansed, Repaired, and Covered	—
,, ,, Waste Pipes connected with Drains, &c., abolished..	17

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. of Lodging-Houses registered under 35th Section of the "Sanitary Act, 1866," or 90th Section of "Public Health Act, 1875"	—
Dust removal attended to... ... ... loads	2205
Removal of Accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	9
Animals Removed, being improperly kept	7

Regularly Inspected—Bakehouse	1
,, ,, Licensed Cowsheds	50
,, ,, Slaughterhouses	6
Legal Proceedings, *i.e.*, Summonses	—
Cesspools Closed	5
Pump-Wells Closed	1

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases.—I can only say that the remarks I have made in previous years still apply, viz.:—There are no arrangements for removing cases of infectious disease, except one by which cases of Smallpox can be removed to Hyde Fever Hospital. The Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools have their own Sanitorium. The Royal Asylum and the Convslescent Hospital send their cases to Monsall Fever Hospital. The subject, I think, is under consideration.

The Sewage Scheme.—The Outfall Works were completed and opened in March, and since then have been in regular use. The effluent, which has been examined from time to time, is most satisfactory. An account of the Works has been furnished me by your Engineer, which, if printed and distributed, would be of great interest to the district. Arrangements have also been made whereby the sewage may be turned on the surrounding land, and so give the filters a rest. It is proposed to do this for about three months in the year if the land can take it. One portion of the Scheme is still unfinished. I am informed that it is expected to be completed before the end of the current year.

Improvements.—Eight Streets have been sewered and the houses abutting on them connected with the sewers. Many privies have been replaced by waste-water closets. These, when legitimately used, continue to work satisfactorily; but in many instances they are abused by the introduction of various kinds of rubbish. Several ashpits and privies have been rebuilt.

Water Supply.—The supply from the Stockport Water Works is sufficient for the needs of the district. During the Summer the water supplied was frequently quite

unfit for domestic use, owing to its muddy character. Several complaints were made, and your Clerk wrote to the Company, who promised to remedy the cause of the complaint, but it continued for a long time. Several wells supplying houses away from the mains have heen cleansed, repaired, and covered in. Samples of water from the wells have been taken, and where the Analyst reported that the water was only a second-class water, and ought to be filtered before being used, your Council ordered these wells to be closed, and Stockport water supplied where possible.

Slaughter Houses.—These still remain unlicensed. I have visited all of them with your Inspector. They are fairly well kept and clean. In one case alterations which I suggested two years ago, and your Council ordered to be done, had not been (at the time of inspection) carried out.

Public Bakehouse.—There is only one in the district. I have visited it, and found it clean and well ventilated.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Your Inspector and I have visited them from time to time. They are well kept and clean. Samples of milk sold in the district have been analysed, and found to be pure. In two cases the Analyst reported them as exceptionally good.

Cemetery.—I am informed that negotiations for providing a Cemetery are in progress.

Emptying of Ashpits and Disposal of Refuse.—Your Inspector has made a Report with regard to these. During the Summer many complaints were made of smells that arose from ashpits. This nuisance would be greatly abated if the occupiers of houses would exercise a little more care, and not throw into them slop-water, etc. I should recommend that occupiers of houses be cautioned by a notice against this misuse of ashpits.

Food and Drugs Act.—Samples of articles of food exposed for sale were taken and analysed, and the Analyst's report was that they were satisfastory.

Unwholesome Food.—As far as I know, none has been exposed for sale in the district.

Common Lodging-Houses.—No house has been reported to the Council as unfit for habitation.

Unhealthy Houses.—No house has been reported to the Council as unfit for habitation.

Elementary Schools.—I have inspected all the Elementary Schools in the district, and generally found the Sanitary arrangements satisfactory ; but in some cases the conveniences were not kept as clean as they ought to be. This has since been improved. The playgrounds at two of the schools were wet and partly under water after rain. They have now been re-drained.

New Houses.—Fifty new houses have been built and occupied, mostly cottages. The requirements of your Bye-laws have been complied with in every case.

I have with your Inspector made from time to time inspections of the district, and in some instances a house to house visitation. Where we found alterations or repairs necessary, they have in almost every case been promptly attended to. Whenever nuisances have been reported to me I have called the attention of your Inspector to them, and he has had them abated as far as possible.

In conclusion I must acknowledge the very efficient help I have always received from your Inspector in the discharge of my duties ; and I may also mention that the County Council requires, as early as possible, a printed or type-written copy of this Report.

JOHN H. GODSON, B.A., M.B. B.C. (Cantab),
Medical Officer of Health for the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District.

February 9th, 1897.

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Tables of Deaths during the Year 1896 in the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District.

(A) CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Populations and Births are in table B). (a)	Mortality from all Causes at subjoined Ages. At all Ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District	134	28	14	6	9	39	38
Royal Lunatic Asylum	29	—	—	—	—	19	10
Convalescent Hospital	7	1	—	—	—	6	—
Warehousemen and Clerk's Schools	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	170	29	14	6	9	64	48

(i)	Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 years of age. 1 Scarlatina.	2 Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	3 Whooping Cough.	4 Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	5 Phthisis.	6 Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy.	7 Heart Disease.	8 All other Diseases.	9 Total.
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District — Under 5	—	—	3	1	1	11	—	26	42
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District — 5 upwards	1	2	—	1	12	23	10	43	92
Royal Lunatic Asylum — Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Royal Lunatic Asylum — 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	25	29
Convalescent Hospital — Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convalescent Hospital — 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	7
Warehousemen and Clerk's Schools — Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warehousemen and Clerk's Schools — 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals — Under 5	—	—	3	1	1	11	—	26	42
Totals — 5 upwards	1	2	—	1	14	27	13	70	128

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates :—

Population (1891) 8255 (including institutions).
Population (estimated to middle of 1896) 8815 (including institutions).

Area in acres : 5812.

Death Rates { General 16·21 (Per 1000 population, estimated to middle of 1896.) Infants (under 1 year of age) 140·7. (Per 1000 births registered.) }

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1896, in the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District; classified according to the

(B) Diseases, Ages, and Localities:—

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics, Public Institutions being shown as Separate Localities. (a)	Population at all Ages. Census 1891. (b)	Population at all Ages. Estimated to middle of 1896. (c)	Registered Births.		New cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health. 1 Scarlatina.	2 Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	3 Erysipelas.	Number of such cases removed from their Homes in the several localities for treatm't in Isolation Hospital. 1 Scarlatina.	2 Erysidelas.
			M 94 F 105						
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District	7540	8250	199	Under 5 ...	4	—	—	—	—
				5 upwards..	17	12	3	—	—
Royal Lunatic Asylum	337	366	—	Under 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—
				5 upwards .	—	—	—	—	—
Convalescent Hospital	153	144	—	Under 5 ...	—	—	—	1	—
				5 upwards .	1	—	1	*	1
Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools	225	255	—	Under 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—
				5 upwards .	5	—	—	5†	—
Totals	8255	9015		Under 5 ...	4	—	—	—	—
				5 upwards	23	12	4	6	1

* Sent to Monsall Fever Hospital. † Treated in their own Sanatorium.